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Current Handling: n/a

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PTO3730

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ACTION IIP-00

RELEASED IN FULL

INFO LOG-00 NP-00 WHA-00 EAP-00 UTED-00 VC-00 TEDE-00
INR-00 IO-00 LAB-01 VCE-00 AC-01 OIC-02 PER-00
ACE-00 SS-00 TEST-00 USIE-00 DRL-02 SAS-00 /006W
-----88D43D 191704Z /38

R 191515Z APR 02
FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6813
AMEMBASSY CARACAS

UNCLAS SANTIAGO 001063

STATE FOR IIP/G/WHA, INR/R/MR, WHA/BSC, WHA/PD, INR/IAA
AMEMBASSY FOR PAO, IO

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: OPRC, KMDR, KPAO, CI
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: VENEZUELA

1. SUMMARY: ONLY ONE APRIL 19 DAILY RAN AN OPINION
PIECE ON VENEZUELA. LEADING-CIRCULATION LA TERCERA
CARRIED AN EDITORIAL POSITIVELY COMMENTING ON PRESIDENT
LAGOS' DECISION TO SUPPORT CHAVEZ. WIRE STORIES RAN
HEADLINES ON CARMONA'S REPLY TO STATEMENTS THAT HE CAN BE
COMPARED TO PINOCHET, ON CHAVEZ' REMARKS THAT HE RESIGNED
TO STOP FURTHER CIVIL UNREST, AND ON THEORIES OF
CONSPIRACY CIRCULATING IN VENEZUELA. ONLY LA TERCERA RAN
A HEADLINE ON THE U.S. ("BUSH WARNS CHAVEZ"). THE LOCAL
PRESS FOCUSED ON PRESIDENT LAGOS' DECISION TO APPOINT A

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NEW CHILEAN AMBASSADOR TO VENEZUELA AS A RESULT OF THE
CURRENT DIPLOMAT'S SUPPORT FOR THE COUP.

EDITORIAL

2. ON APRIL 19 LEADING-CIRCULATION, SANTIAGO DAILY LA
TERCERA RAN AN EDITORIAL ENTITLED "DIPLOMATIC DEFECTS."
BLOCK QUOTE FOLLOWS.

"... IT'S EVIDENT THAT IT WAS A MISTAKE TO DENY THAT IT
WAS A COUP AND TO LEGITIMIZE THE TRANSITORY GOVERNMENT...
PRESIDENT LAGOS DID THE RIGHT THING BY QUICKLY CORRECTING

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: JOHN L MILLS
DATE/CASE ID: 30 AUG 2004 200400110

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THE GOVERNMENT'S POSITION AND BY CALLING PRESIDENT CHAVEZ
TO EXPRESS THE GOVERNMENT'S SUPPORT."

WIRE STORY HEADLINES

3. LA TERCERA, APRIL 19: "EX-VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT
(PEDRO CARMONA): 'I'M NOT A LIGHT PINOCHET -- ASSURES HE
HAS DEMOCRATIC VOCATION."

4. LA TERCERA, APRIL 19: "BUSH WARNS CHAVEZ."

5. CONSERVATIVE, INFLUENTIAL, SANTIAGO NEWSPAPER-OF-
RECORD EL MERCURIO, APRIL 19: "CHAVEZ: 'I SURRENDERED TO
PREVENT A CIVIL WAR.'"

6. EL MERCURIO, APRIL 19: "CONSPIRACY THEORIES HAVE
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VENEZUELAN CONFUSED."

LOCAL PRESS COVERAGE

7. INDEPENDENT EL METROPOLITANO, APRIL 19: "(PRESIDENT)
LAGOS WILL APPOINT NEW AMBASSADOR TO VENEZUELA."

BROWNFIELD

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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